

Attorney Docket No. ETHP:101US  
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/649,161  
Reply to Office Action of March 23, 2005  
Date: August 23, 2005

### **Current Status of the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended) An enclosure for a blood pressure cuff comprising:

a pouch having an opening therein to hold said blood pressure cuff; and,  
a flexible fastener,

said flexible fastener having a thickness sufficiently thin so as to prevent curling when said enclosure is wrapped upon itself; said flexible fastener adapted to open said pouch and at least partially close said pouch when said blood pressure cuff is enclosed therein; wherein said flexible fastener comprises a flange.

Claim 2 (original) The enclosure of Claim 1 wherein said flexible fastener comprises a first strip having at least one male rib portion extending therefrom and a second strip including at least two female rib portions extending therefrom, said female ribs forming a channel for complementarily accepting said male rib portion therein such that said first strip and second strip may be matingly engaged

Claim 3 (currently amended) The enclosure of Claim 1 wherein said flexible fastener ~~comprises a flange having~~ has a thickness between 2 and 12 mils.

Claim 4 (currently amended) The enclosure of Claim 3 wherein said flexible fastener ~~comprises a flange having~~ has a thickness between 4-8 mils.

Claim 5 (original) The enclosure of Claim 2 wherein said flexible fastener further comprises a zipper clasp.

Attorney Docket No. ETHP:101US  
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/649,161  
Reply to Office Action of March 23, 2005  
Date: August 23, 2005

Claim 6 (original)     The enclosure of Claim 1 wherein said enclosure comprises at least a single ply of polyolefin film having an inner surface that is impermeable to liquids.

Claim 7 (original)     The enclosure of Claim 6 wherein said enclosure comprises at least a single ply of polyolefin film having an outer surface with a fibrous texture.

Claim 8 (original)     The enclosure of Claim 7 wherein said flexible fastener is disposed proximate said opening.

Claim 9 (original)     The enclosure of Claim 8 wherein said flexible fastener further comprises:  
                         a first strip including at least one male rib portion extending therefrom; and,  
                         a second strip including at least two female rib portions extending therefrom, said female ribs forming a channel for complementarily accepting said male rib portion therein such that said first strip and second strip may be matingly engaged.

Claim 10 (original)    The enclosure of Claim 1 wherein said enclosure is translucent.

Claim 11 (original)    The enclosure of Claim 8 wherein said enclosure is translucent.

Claim 12 (original)    The enclosure of Claim 8 wherein said pouch is formed by folding said at least a single ply of polyolefin film upon itself.

Claim 13 (original)    The enclosure of Claim 12 wherein the at least one edge of said pouch comprises an ultrasonic weld.

Claim 14 (original)    The enclosure of Claim 1 further comprising securing means for fastening said enclosure to itself when rolled upon itself.

Attorney Docket No. ETHP:101US  
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/649,161  
Reply to Office Action of March 23, 2005  
Date: August 23, 2005

Claim 15 (original) The enclosure of Claim 14 wherein said securing means comprises hook and loop.

Claim 16 (original) The enclosure of Claim 1 comprising a length sufficient such that said enclosure may be wrapped about an appendage.

Claim 17 (original) The enclosure of Claim 1 further comprising means for distinguishing said enclosure from another enclosure.

Claim 18 (original) The enclosure of Claim 17 wherein said means for distinguishing comprises a label secured to a top panel of at least one of said enclosures.

Claim 19. A method of using a blood pressure cuff for purposes of minimizing contamination between at least two patients using a single blood pressure cuff, said method comprising:

providing at least two enclosures having openings therein to hold said blood pressure cuff for said at least two patients; said at least two enclosures having flexible fasteners having a thickness sufficiently thin so as to prevent curling when said enclosures are wrapped upon themselves; said flexible fastener adapted to open said enclosures and at least partially close said enclosures when said blood pressure cuff is enclosed therein;

securing said blood pressure cuff within a first enclosure and measuring the blood pressure of a first patient;

removing said blood pressure cuff from said first enclosure; ~~and~~[,]

securing said blood pressure cuff within a second enclosure and measuring the blood pressure of a second patient[.]; and,

removing said blood pressure cuff from said second enclosure; ~~and~~[,]

wherein said flexible fasteners comprises a first strip including at least one male rib portion extending therefrom and a second strip including at least two female rib portions

Attorney Docket No. ETHP:101US  
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/649,161  
Reply to Office Action of March 23, 2005  
Date: August 23, 2005

extending therefrom, said female ribs forming a channel for complementarily accepting said male rib portion therein such that said first strip and second strip may be matingly engaged, wherein said flexible fasteners each comprise a flange.

Claim 20 (original) The method of Claim 19 further comprising securing said blood pressure cuff within said first enclosure and re-measuring the blood pressure of said first patient.

Claim 21 (cancelled)

Claim 22 (currently amended) The method of Claim ~~21~~19 wherein said flexible fasteners each ~~comprise a flange having~~have a thickness between 2 and 12 mils.

Claim 23 (original) The method of Claim 22 wherein said flexible fastener has a flange having a thickness between 4-8 mils.

Claim 24 (original) The method of Claim 20 further comprising providing means for distinguishing said at least two enclosures from one another.

Claim 25 (original) The method of Claim 24 wherein said means for distinguishing comprises a label secured to a top panel of at least one of said enclosures.